Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

List of Claims:

1-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a therapeutically effective amount of hepatic glutathione increasing compound for reducing insulin resistance, and

b) a therapeutically effective amount of hepatic nitric oxide ~~increasing compound~~ donors for reducing insulin resistance.

7. (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one of nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.

8. (previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

9. (previously presented) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient having lower than normal hepatic glutathione levels, said method comprising: selecting a patient suffering from insulin resistance; determining if hepatic glutathione levels are lower than normal

in the patient; and administering the composition of claim 6.

10. (previously presented) A method of reducing insulin resistance in a mammalian patient comprising administering the composition of claim 6.

11. (previous presented) The composition of claim 6 further comprising albumin, liposomes, or bile salts.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the insulin resistance is HISS-dependent insulin resistance (HDIR).

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the hepatic glutathione increasing compound administered causes an increase in hepatic glutathione synthesis.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the glutathione increasing compound is at least one of N-acetylcysteine, cysteine esters, L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (OTC), gamma glutamylcysteine and its ethyl ester, glutathione ethyl ester, glutathione isopropyl ester, lipoic acid, cystine, cysteine, methionine, or S-adenosylmethionine (SAMe).

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the nitric oxide ~~increasing compound~~ donor is at least one of SIN-1, molsidamine, nitrosylated N-acetylcysteine, nitrosylated cysteine esters, nitrosylated L-2-oxothiazolidine-4-carboxolate (NOTC), nitrosylated gamma glutamylcystein and its ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione ethyl ester, nitrosylated glutathione isopropyl ester, nitrosylated lipoic acid, nitrosylated cysteine, nitrosylated cystine, nitrosylated methionine, or nitrosylated S-adenosylmethionine.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the glutathione increasing composition is administered orally.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the glutathione increasing composition is administered by intravenous injection.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein the glutathione increasing composition is 8-bromo-cGMP.

19-20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the ~~compound which increases~~ nitric oxide donor is SIN-1.

22. (currently amended and withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein the hepatic nitric oxide ~~increasing compound~~ donor is molsidamine.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising administering a pharmaceutically acceptable anti-oxidant.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the patient suffers from at least one of non-insulin dependent diabetes, essential hypertension, metabolic obesity, chronic liver disease, fetal alcohol effects, old age and a chronic inflammatory disease.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the patient is a human.

26-28. (cancelled)

29. (withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable antioxidant.

30. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 7 further comprising albumin, liposomes, or bile salts.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein administering the composition improves glucose uptake in said patient.